Trial Summary
Researched By: Agri-Tech Consulting
Location: Whitewater, WI
Objective: To evaluate the benefit of Nutricor® and Komodo® on Winter Survival and Relative Forage Quality (RFQ) of Alfalfa.

Methodology
The study began during the 2014 growing season and was conducted through the spring of 2015 in Whitewater, Wisconsin. The test crop was an established field of ‘Spangler Starbuck’ Alfalfa and the soil was composed of Matherton Silt Loam. Alfalfa broke dormancy on April 25 of 2014, hereafter referred to as Time After Dormancy (TAD) and TAD of 2015 occurred on May 2. Harvest cutting occurred on June 10, July 17, August 15 and September 25. After winter dormancy in spring of 2015 plant survival was evaluated May 2 on a rating scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being optimal. Harvested alfalfa was tested for Relative Forage Quality (RFQ).

Treatment Applications
The Grower Standard Practice (GSP) for fertilizing alfalfa in Wisconsin is the following: After first and third cut: 100 pounds per acre (lbs./A) 18-46-0 (as DAP), 200 lbs/A 0-0-62 (as MOP) and 1 lb./A Boron (as SoluBor). Specific treatments were applied ten days after TAD and 10 days after each cutting:

1. GSP 100%
2. GSP 100% + Nutricor 2 GPA + Komodo 2 GPA — Nutricor and Komodo were both applied at 2 GPA after TAD, first, second, third and fourth cut
3. GSP 75% + Nutricor 2 GPA + Komodo 2 GPA — DAP was applied at 75 lbs./A, MOP at 150 lbs./A and Boron at 0.75 lbs./A. Nutricor and Komodo were both applied at 2 GPA after TAD, first, second, third and fourth cut
4. GSP 100% + Nutricor 2 GPA + Komodo 1 GPA — Nutricor was applied at 2 GPA after TAD, first, second, third and fourth cut. Komodo was applied at 1 GPA after TAD, first, second, third and fourth cut
5. GSP 75% + Nutricor 2 GPA + Komodo 1 GPA — DAP was applied at 75 lbs./A, MOP at 150 lbs./A and Boron at 0.75 lbs./A. Nutricor was applied at 2 GPA after TAD, first, second, third and fourth cut. Komodo was applied at 1 GPA after TAD, first, second, third and fourth cut

Results and Conclusions
Winter Survival ratings for Alfalfa treated with Nutricor and Komodo were 4.5 or better — effectively a 50% improvement in observed survival over the GSP. Alfalfa treated with Nutricor and Komodo was found to have RFQ indices above 200, indicating a better forage quality than the GSP even with reduced standard fertilizer rates.

To find out more about Nutricor and Komodo, visit our website at Solutions4Earth.com or call 855-834-3882.